THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2012 *Friday, May* 23, 1828. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE Comedy of *The Will*, with *The Dumb Savoyard and his Monkey*, and *Giovanni in London*, were the performances at this Theatre; it was a ticket night.—This evening, Mr. Macready takes his Benefit.

Covent Garden Theatre.

The Merry Wives of Windsor was performed at this Theatre last night. We used to think Mr. Bartley's personation of *Falstaff* better than it is at present; he is become more boisterous than formerly, and though he does not give the sensuality of the character so glaringly as Dowton, yet he fails in imparting to it the refined wit, the rich gaiety, and joyous hilarity, so inimitably pourtrayed by Elliston; Mr. Bartley's is, nevertheless, a clever representation of this arduous character. The *Merry Wives* could not find more appropriate representatives than Madame Vestris and Miss Stephens; the arch, vivacious gaiety, and exuberant spirit, of the one, contrasts admirably with the quiet, unconscious naïveté of the other;—while the singing of both is excellent. Keeley has become more at home in the character of *Slender*, and, by acquiring more confidence in his own powers in the part, carries the audience more completely with him. Mr. Wood's execution of one or two plaintive airs, in this piece, is alone sufficient to ensure the popularity he merits; he was encored in "The Winter it is past," as was Miss Stephens in "Even as the Sun."—The grand Spectacle of *Peter Wilkins* concluded.—The house was full.

SURREY THEATRE.—The new Drama of *Auld Robin Gray*, was acted here last night, for the fourth time; it was followed by the Operetta of *Die Nachtigal und Der Rabe; A Roland for an Oliver* concluded, in which Mr. Rayner played *Fixture*, Mrs. Fitzwilliam *Maria Darlington*, and Mrs. Vale *Mrs Fixture*. A Mr. Wyatt, from the Exeter Theatre, makes his first appearance, to-night, as *Jeffery*, in *Animal Magnetism*.

A Letter from Paris, dated May 17, states that Kean made his second appearance in the character of *Othello*, and that he never played it with finer effect, notwithstanding which he is not a decided favorite with the Parisians, much of his acting they do not comprehend, and it must not be concealed that the anecdotes related of him off the stage have their effect with the *moral* Parisians, who are very severe on the private characters of male performers, though their gallantry leads them to excuse the peccadilloes of the female ones.

The story of Mademoiselle Sontag having been offered a thousand guineas to sing three night at the Dublin Theatre, is a fabrication.—We believe she is likely to sing at Oxford.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Opera of

ARTAXERXES.

Artaxerxes, Madame VESTRIS,
Artabanes, Mr WOOD, Rimenes, Mr HENRY,
Arbaces, Mr SAPIO.
Mandane..... Miss HUGHES,
Semira, Miss HENRY.

In Act 2—The celebrated Composition,

"Mild as the Moonbeams,"

By Miss Hughes, Miss Henry, Mr Sapio, and Mad. Vestris.

After which, the Entertainment of

The Somnambulist.

M. de Rosambert, Mr WRENCH,
Edmund Beauchamp.....Mr DIDDEAR,
Colin de Trop, Mr KEELEY,
M. le Notaire, Mr EVANS, Villager, Mr HENRY,
Oliver, Mr MEADOWS.
Ernestine Dormeuil, (an Orphan) Miss KELLY,
Dame Michaud, Mrs DAVENPORT,
Madame Gertrude.....Miss GOWARD.

To which, will be added, the Farce of

The Invincibles.

The Overture and Music composed and Selected by Mr. A. Lee.

General Verdun, Mr FAWCETT,
Chev. Dorval, Mr BAKER, O'Slash, Mr POWER,
Captain Florvil, Mr WOOD,
Brusque, Mr BARTLEY, Tactique, Mr MEADOWS,
Victoire, Madame VESTRIS.
Juliette, Miss CAWSE, Sophie, Miss J. SCOTT,
Elise, Miss GRIFFITHS, Desiré, Mrs BROWN,
Therèse, Miss EGAN, Emilie, Miss REED.

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Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

MR. MACREADY's NIGHT.

This Evening, the Play of

CYMBELINE.

Cymbeline, Mr POWELL, Guiderius, Mr MUDE,
Cloten, Mr BROWNE, Pisanio, Mr YOUNGE,
Arviragus, Mr YARNOLD, Philario, Mr C. JONES,
Posthumous Leonatus, Mr MACREADY,
Bellarius, Mr THOMPSON, Lewis, Mr HOWELL,
Iachimo, Mr COOPER,
Varus, Mr DARNLEY, Cornelius, Mr FENTON,
Locrine, Mr WAKEFIELD, Madan, Mr HONNOR,
Caius Lucius, Mr BEDFORD.

Queen, Mrs KNIGHT, Ellen, Miss WESTON,
Imogen, Miss FOOTE.

In Act 2—The celebrated GLEE of

"*Hark! the Lark at Heaven's Gate Sings,*"

By Messrs. NELSON, G. SMITH, & GOULD.

To conclude with, the Farce of

The Highland Reel.

Laird of Raasey, Mr HUGHES,
Crowdy, Mr THOMPSON, Sandy, Mr YARNOLD,
M'Gilpin, Mr GATTIE,
Shelty.....Mr HARLEY,
Charley, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Serj. Jack, Mr G. SMITH, Apie, Mr E. VINING,
Captain Dash, Mr WEBSTER.

Benin, Miss L. WILLMOTT, Jenny, Miss NICOL,
Moggy M'Gilpin, Miss FOOTE.

To-morrow, a Grand Selection of Antient and Modern Music.

King's Theatre, Haymarket.

This Evening, the Opera of

Il Don Giovanni.

The Characters by

Mademoiselle SONTAG,
Signor TORRI, Signor PORTO,
Signor DE ANGELI, Signor ZUCHELLI, and
Madame CASTELLI.

After which, the Ballet of

Les Pages du Duc de Vendome.

Mon. ANATOLE, Mon. HOLMAN, Mon. DAUMONT,
Mon. BOISGIRADE, Mon. VENAFRA, Mon. GOURRIER,
Madlle COPERE, Madlle. GLADSTONE, Madlle. TWAMLEY.
Madlle. BROCARD, Mad. LE COMTE, Mad. ANATOLE,

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town. Now, may I beg the favor—pardon the liberty—never liked to be troublesome—but would you be so kind, from time to time—just for the information of my friends—as to allow your most useful Periodical to become the channel for announcing to them where I may be met with on the several days of the week. Monday—I will be found seated at the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, anxiously admiring the two new Views, the charming Village of Unterseen, and the Cloisters of St. Wandrille—quite bewitching!—About two I pop in to see Mr. Burford's Marine Panorama of the *Battle of Navarino*, Strand—awfully grand—the din of war and conflagration is truly alarming—Britons bulwark—love our navy. On Tuesday, fired with military glory, I stray to the Large Room, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, to gaze on the *Battles of Buonaparte*, in Egypt, Italy, Spain Germany, and Russia—quite appalling—every figure a perfect portrait. On Wednesday, I wander about through the various departments of that elegant Establishment, the Royal Bazaar Exhibition, 73, Oxford Street, and view The Works of Art, and British Diorama.—At 3 I shall be found, with my Spectacles off, admiring the truly grand display of the Wonders of Nature—I don't mean the Naturals called Fops; but the *Microscopic* Wonders, exhibited by Mr. Carpenter, the Optician, in Regent Street. Afterwards I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in the same street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Work shop.—On Thursday—I qualify Mrs. P—'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock at the *Apollonicon*; and on our return, drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* beautiful Needle-Work. After dinner, Mrs. Pry amuses me with neighbouring tattle, while we sip charming Port or Sherry, had from the cheap London and Westminster Wine and Spirit Company, Strand—Most evenings I enjoy a Cup of excellent Coffee, and the finest Cigars in London, at the celebrated Cigar Divan, King Street, Covent Garden—but I intrude—beg pardon. Your's, PAUL PRY.